WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data storage system, comprising:

a first data storage medium for storing data, the first data storage medium currently configured as an accessible medium;

a second data storage medium for storing a copy of the data, the second data storage medium currently configured as a standby medium;

first configuration information defining a switching trigger when the first data storage medium currently configured as the accessible medium becomes the standby medium and when the second data storage medium currently configured as the standby medium becomes the accessible medium; and

a data storage system manager using the first configuration information to control the switching.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the first data storage medium and second data storage medium are each in a power-saving state.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the accessible medium is in a power-saving mode.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the standby medium is in a power-saving mode.

5. The system of claim 3, wherein the standby medium is in a power-off mode.

6. The system of claim 2, wherein the accessible medium is read-only.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the switching trigger includes a time period.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the switching trigger includes an equation of access time.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the switching trigger includes an administrative request.

10.   The system of claim 1, further comprising a third data storage device for storing a copy of the data, the third data storage device currently configured as a standby medium.

11.   A method of storing data, comprising:
        configuring a first data storage medium for storing data as an accessible medium;
        configuring a second storage medium for storing a copy of the data as a standby medium;
        identifying a switching trigger when the first storage medium currently configured as the accessible medium becomes the standby medium and the second storage medium currently configured as the standby medium becomes the accessible medium; and
        switching the accessible medium and the standby medium after the switching trigger is identified.

12.   The method of claim 11, wherein the first data storage medium and second data storage medium are each in a power-saving state.

13.   The method of claim 12, wherein the accessible medium is in a power-saving mode.

14.   The method of claim 13, wherein the standby medium is in a power-saving mode.

15.   The method of claim 13, wherein the standby medium is in a power-off mode.

16.   The method of claim 12, wherein the accessible medium is read-only.

17.   The method of claim 11, wherein the switching trigger includes a time period.

18.   The method of claim 11, wherein the switching trigger includes an equation of access time.

19.   The method of claim 11, wherein the switching trigger includes an administrative request.

20.   The method of claim 11, further comprising configuring a third data storage medium for storing a copy of the data as a standby medium.

21.   A data storage system, comprising:

a first data storage medium for storing data;

a second data storage medium for storing a copy of the data;

means for configuring the first data storage medium as an accessible medium and the second storage medium as a standby medium;

means for identifying a switching trigger when the first storage medium currently configured as the accessible medium becomes the standby medium and the second storage medium currently configured as the standby medium becomes the accessible medium; and

means for switching the accessible medium and the standby medium after the switching trigger is identified.